

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003  
8:15 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Ray Stevens, Vice Chair  
Larry Hudkins  
Bob Workman  
Deb Schorr

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier, Chair

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk  
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Staff Meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes of January 9, 2003. Hudkins, Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- A. Hiring Request from County Engineer for a Fuel Truck/Paint Striper Operator and Equipment Operator II (Exhibit A)
- B. Letter from Waverly Plumbing & Well Co (Exhibit B)
- C. Starting Time for January 21, 2003 Staff Meeting
- D. Time and Location of Mid-Year Budget Retreat
- E. Location of Lancaster County Alternatives to Incarceration Program's Client Resource Center
- F. Joint Meeting of Lincoln Board of Education/Lancaster County Board/Lincoln City Council/Mayor Don Wesely (7:30 a.m. on February 10, 2003 in Room 113 of the County-City Building)
- G. Preliminary Property Valuation Protest Hearings

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

### **3 COMMISSIONER MEETING REPORTS**

A. Monthly Meeting with Mayor Wesely - Heier, Workman

Workman said medical costs for inmates injured by the police and the lodging tax were discussed.

B. Joint Budget Committee - Stevens, Schorr

Stevens said the group decided to alternate meetings with the Community Services Implementation Project (C-SIP) Steering Committee.

C. Region V Governing Board - Heier

Schorr reported that Commissioner Heier was elected Treasurer.

D. Families First & Foremost (F<sup>3</sup>) Conveners Group - Schorr

Schorr said the State wants savings from the Integrated Care Coordination Unit (ICCU) contract to be used to expand programs around the State.

E. Public Building Commission - Hudkins, Workman

Hudkins said discussion focused on the new Courtyard Café vendor, how to finance the bond for the new parking facility, the aquarium policy and a report from the Arts Committee. He also reported on the request for a shared City Council/County Board reception desk.

F. Board of Health - Hudkins

Hudkins said the Air Pollution Advisory Committee will be forwarding its recommendation for new air pollution fees to the City Council and County Board for ratification.

### **4 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** - Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant; Amy Prenda, Director of Legal Research and Analysis for Kissel/E&S Associates

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, gave a legislative update (Exhibit C), noting that the Governor's budget calls for a 10% across the board reduction, including aid to cities and counties. He said the greatest impact to Lancaster County will be in the area of jail reimbursement reductions (anticipated loss of \$600,000). Kissel said many senators believe LB 1085 (increased sales and income tax) should be continued. Other tax revenue bills have, or will be, introduced such as a sales tax on food, expansion of the sales tax base and a 2% increase in the income tax rate.

Kissel distributed a legislative bill summary (Exhibit D), and noted the introduction of bills requested by Lancaster County. He also reported that LB 413 has been introduced on behalf of the Governor. The bill will create three health service regions for mental health and developmental disabilities.

The Board reviewed a memorandum from Dennis Keefe, Public Defender, asking that the County support LB 62 (change provisions relating to the Commission on Public Advocacy) at a Judiciary Committee hearing on January 22, 2003 (Exhibit E).

Board consensus was to have Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, testify at the hearing. It was also suggested that Scott Helvie, Chief Deputy Public Defender, testify on behalf of the Public Defender's Office.

### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- A. Hiring Request from County Engineer for a Fuel Truck/Paint Striper Operator and Equipment Operator II (Exhibit A)

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Schorr seconded to send a letter to the County Engineer asking that he use discretion and delay hiring as long as possible. Hudkins, Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Letter from Waverly Plumbing & Well Co (Exhibit B)

Eagan presented a draft of a letter to the Building and Safety Department (Exhibit F) notifying them that the Board does not want licensure of the mechanical and plumbing trade in the County or code enforcement for existing buildings on existing farms.

The Board asked Eagan to seek clarification of whether unlicensed members of those trades may operate within the City's three-mile zoning jurisdiction and to refine the draft of the letter to the Building and Safety Department for Board review at the January 23, 2003 Staff Meeting, copying Waverly Plumbing & Well Company, Waverly, Nebraska; Moser Well Drilling & Service Inc., Hickman, Nebraska; Buresh Plumbing, Valparaiso, Nebraska and Ernest Well Drilling, Milford, Nebraska.

- 5 REPORT FROM EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC** - Dr. Dale Michaels, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) President; Mike Miriovsky, Executive Director of EMS, Inc.; Jay Wiliger, Quality Improvement Coordinator, EMS, Inc.

Mike Miriovsky, Executive Director of EMS, Inc. explained that EMS, Inc. provides independent medical oversight for Lincoln's 911/ Emergency Communications System, including the Lincoln Fire Department, Midwest Medical and the 911 Center that is responsible for dispatching ambulance and rescue departments within Lancaster County. He said EMS, Inc. also provides a medical director and oversight for nine rural agencies within Lancaster County.

Miriovsky reviewed Lincoln Fire Department Ambulance Response Times for Lancaster County, Fractile Analysis 1/1/02-12/31/02 (Exhibit G), noting an average response time of 11.38 minutes in 2002, compared to an average response time of 12.05 minutes in 2001. He said ambulances have a response time of 15 to 18 minutes, 90% of the time, which he said is a reasonable response time.

Miriovsky also distributed copies of an article in the Hickman Voice Newspaper recognizing the Hallam Rescue Team for recently saving a cardiac arrest victim's life (Exhibit H).

In response to a question from Eagan, Miriovsky said EMS, Inc. has not been asked to have a representative serve on the Mayor's Emergency Services Committee, although it did offer its services.

### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- C. Starting Time for January 21, 2003 Staff Meeting

Board consensus was to set the starting time at 9:30 a.m.

- D. Time and Location of Mid-Year Budget Retreat

The Mid-Year Budget Retreat will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Roper & Sons Resource & Outreach Center, 440 South 70<sup>th</sup> Street.

- E. Location of Lancaster County Alternatives to Incarceration Program's Client Resource Center

The Board asked that Don Killeen, County Property Manager, provide an estimate for locating the center in the 9<sup>th</sup> & "J" Street Building or Trabert Hall at a Staff Meeting.

- F. Joint Meeting of Lincoln Board of Education/Lancaster County Board/Lincoln City Council/Mayor Don Wesely (7:30 a.m. on February 10, 2003 in Room 113 of the County-City Building)

Board members suggested that discussion of the Governor's budget, legislative issues and LB 80 (change tax sale procedures) be scheduled on the agenda.

- G. Preliminary Property Valuation Protest Hearings

Norm Agena, County Assessor/Register of Deeds, appeared and said his office no longer plans to use the 9<sup>th</sup> & "J" Street Building for the hearings.

**6 FAMILIES FIRST & FOREMOST (F<sup>3</sup>) YEARLY REPORT** - Ken Gallagher, Research Coordinator for Center for At-Risk Children's Services; University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) Department of Special Education

Ken Gallagher, Research Coordinator for Center for At-Risk Children's Services; University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) Department of Special Education, gave an overview of Families First and Foremost, Annual Report, October 2002 (Exhibit I). He said it appears that Families First & Foremost (F<sup>3</sup>) is doing pretty well in terms of the three primary questions:

- 1) Who are the children and families served by F<sup>3</sup>?
- 2) How are the children and families served by F<sup>3</sup>?
- 3) How well are the children and families served by F<sup>3</sup>?

He said F<sup>3</sup> is serving the target population, adhering to the principles of wraparound services, and short term and long term improvements are demonstrated.

Gallagher said UNL will continue to collect data on the children and families over a three year period. He also reported that there are preliminary indications that there will be a sixth year of grant funding.

**7 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR ACREAGE BUILD-THROUGH CONSULTANT** - Marvin Krout, Planning Director; Mike DeKalb, Planning Department

Eagan distributed copies of Request for Proposals (RFP): "Build Through" Standards for Pre-Design of Acreage Development for Urbanization (Exhibit J).

Mike DeKalb, Planning Department, noted that three rural studies were called for in the Lincoln and Lancaster County 2025 Comprehensive Plan in order to implement new acreage policy (Exhibit K):

- 1) "Build Through" Design Standards (guidelines allowing for future acreage development to be converted to an urban-style configuration when they are brought into the City)
- 2) Cost of Services Review (an independent analysis of the economic and quality of life impacts of acreages)
- 3) Performance Standard "Point System" (allowing for higher density acreage development when certain criteria are met)

DeKalb reviewed the following (Exhibits L-M):

- \* Rural Studies Status
- \* Acreage Development Performance Standards (Draft)

Board members suggested that points be awarded for environmental efforts and conservation easements and that the weighting for soils be adjusted.

Marvin Krout, Planning Director, said the Cost of Services Study will help to identify areas to "tweak".

\* Draft Working Schedule, County-Wide Acreage Studies

DeKalb said the "Build-Through" Design Standards Study is to be completed by May 15, 2003, with a budget of approximately \$40,000. He said he anticipates that selection of a consultant for that study will be completed within a week.

Workman clarified that it has not been the Board's intent to implement impact fees in the County. He said the Cost of Services Study was merely seen as a tool to help the Board develop an overall philosophy towards populating the county.

DeKalb said the question has been, "Do acreages pay their way?" He said the consultant is charged with looking at county costs. DeKalb noted that the Waverly School District and Southeast Rural Fire District seem to be most heavily impacted by the City's growth and said their numbers will also be "plugged" into the formula.

Krout said the Cost of Services Study will look at the entire scope of services and operating costs.

Schorr asked why the Norris School System is not included.

DeKalb explained that the budget limited the study to one school district and one rural fire district, preferably overlapping. He said the Waverly School District was selected in part because of the pressure for development of the Stevens Creek area.

Krout added that the study will provide a model that can be used for other areas.

Workman noted that the County's Cost of Services Study, differs from the City's and said he hopes the consultant will be cognizant of that. He also stated that, in terms of the "Build-Through" Design Standards Study, he believes the County's part of the problem has been addressed through Community Unit Plans (CUP's).

**8 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR -**  
Sue Kirkland, Clerk of the District Court

Item dropped from the agenda.

**9 ACTION ITEMS**

A. Letter to Bryan/LGH Health System

Item deferred one week.

- B. Letter to Building & Safety Department Regarding Licensure and Building Permits for Existing Farmstead Residences

See Item 2B.

- C. Resolution Supporting Help America Vote Act

There was no interest in supporting the resolution at this time.

- D. Settlement Agreement with Willard and Brenda Tekolste in the Amount of \$15,000 for the Acquisition of Real Property and Compensation for Damages, County Court Case #CI02-9037

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. Workman, Stevens, Hudkins and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

## **10 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

- A. Environment Assessment for I-80 Widening Project

Eagan said County Engineering has not expressed any environmental concerns.

Workman remarked that he would like to see the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge retained as a bicycle bridge.

- B. TRIM Electronic Recordkeeping System

Thorpe estimated the cost of computer upgrades and a server for Information Services at \$20,000.

Board consensus to consider the item at the Mid-Year Budget Retreat.

- C. County Attorney Training Session (January 27, 2003)

Commissioners Stevens, Hudkins, Workman and Schorr indicated plans to attend. Eagan and Thorpe also plan to attend the training.

- D. Laptops for County Commissioners

Stevens asked the Board to consider purchasing two laptop computers for the Commissioners' use.

The Board asked Eagan to obtain a price quote for Board review at the Mid-Year Budget Retreat.

E. Comprehensive Plan Language Regarding Acreages

See Item 7.

F. Committee Assignments

The Board reviewed a list of committee assignments (Exhibit O) and made the following changes:

- \* Delete assignment of Workman to the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development
- \* Appoint Schorr to the Corrections Board, Vice Chair
- \* Transfer Stevens' assignment to the Keno Prevention Advisory Committee to Schorr

The Board scheduled action on the committee assignments on the January 21, 2003 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

The Board also scheduled appointment of Workman to the Public Building Commission to fulfill the term of Kathy Campbell (former County Commissioner) on the January 21, 2003 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

G. Automatic External Defibrillator Project

Board consensus was to suggest placement of the item on the agenda for the Joint Meeting of Lincoln Board of Education/Lancaster County Board/Lincoln City Council/Mayor Don Wesely. It was also suggested that consideration be given to locating a unit in the County-City Government Complex.

H. Request for Keno Funds for Development of Jamaica North Trail

Board consensus was to schedule the item on the Mid-Year Budget Retreat agenda.

I. Staff Meeting Starting Time

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved to set the Staff Meeting time at 8:30 a.m.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

Board consensus was to retain the starting time of 8:15 a.m.

Hudkins exited the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

J. Request for Payroll Deduction for Disability Insurance for Sheriff Deputies

Item held.

## 11 ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:14 p.m. Workman, Schorr and Stevens voted aye. Hudkins was absent from voting. Motion carried.

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Bruce Medcalf  
County Clerk